



29

MEMORANDUM

Austin Police Department *Office of the Chief*

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Stan Knee, Chief of Police
DATE: May 13, 2004
SUBJECT: Overview of PERF's Role in Austin

Representatives from the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) are working with the Austin Police Department (APD) to address the goals set out in the 2004 Community Relations Plan. A group from the Management Services Unit within PERF is evaluating APD's use of force issues and Dr. Lorie Fridell, Director of the Research at PERF, has provided information on the collection and analysis of traffic stop and search data. PERF representatives have been to Austin twice and have accomplished the following:

- Management Services
- Interviewed 82 community members on their perception of APD.
 - Interviewed 108 sworn members of the police department about Training, Recruiting, Internal Affairs, and Community Outreach.
 - Met with employees in the APD Community Liaison Office and the Police Monitor's Office.
 - Reviewing documentation of community input provided by the Monitor's Office.
- Dr. Fridell
- Met with representatives from the ACLU and the local media.
 - Presented information to executives and planners from local law enforcement agencies.
 - Met with Council Members and City Management about data collection.

Next Steps:

The Management Services group is currently drafting their report that will include recommendations for revisions to Officer and Cadet curriculum. The report will be ready in July. A representative will return to Austin, along with Dr. Fridell, to discuss the recommendations with the public.

Also in July, APD will present additional analysis of 2003 Racial Profiling data, based on Dr. Fridell's recommendations, and a revision of the Race and Law Enforcement document. Following the dissemination of this information, APD will host Community Forums to discuss the research findings, training recommendations, and remaining